



# HI-Q

## THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President, P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

### LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske	VE3JQ
Ray Forslund	VE3EDZ
Ray Greer	VE3CH
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Bill Klemacki	VE3AJ
Bill Roberts	VE3ARN

### LARC EXECUTIVE

President:	Bob Hansen	VE3RVA 767-6924
Vice-Pres:	Mark Vaillant	VA3MVR 935-2205
Secretary:	Judy Artist	VA3EAP 345-2218
Treasurer:	Jan Sokoloski	VA3JRS 344-3222
Directors:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW 622-1216
	Andy Malcolm	VE3INI 345-1858
	Maureen Meredith	VA3MOB 344-7868
	Pat Pugh	VA3PP 345-8562
Past Pres:	Ian Mellis	VA3RIM 577-1628

### LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	MOUNT BALDY	147.06	(-600)	FP
VE3TBR	ST. JOSEPH'S	146.820	(-600)	FP
VE3BGA	HILLCREST H.S.	147.390	(+600)	
VE3TBB	UPSALA ONT.	145.470	(-600)	FP
(linked to VE3YQT)				

### PREZ SEZ.....

The first meeting of the LARC for 2001 was held in the new **Room 191** in the McIntyre Building. I would like to thank all those members and friends that showed up for it.

The ticket sales are going well for the **February 10** dinner meeting. Last call for tickets will be **February 6**. I have a very interesting guest speaker lined up, and I hope to have a sell out for this event.

The LARC Meeting on March 18/2001 will be a show and tell, bring any old communication or test equipment that you have lying around the shack. There must be an interesting story behind it.

See you all at the dinner meeting February 0/2001.

Your president Bob **VE3RVA**

### From a CCRAA “Discharge” newsletter.....

The town of Hermantown, Minnesota has declared a moratorium on installations of radio towers. The ordinance states that “No person, firm, entity, firm or corporation shall create, allow, own, or operate, unless in existence On October 2, 2000, a radio antenna for amateur communications or other related uses in a residential or commercial district until October 2, 2001, or until ....”.

It would appear from a full reading of the ordinance that Hermantown is revisiting its city plan of 1976 which allowed radio towers, and until that study has been completed with input from interested parties such as the ARRL, FCC and others, the moratorium will be in effect. *Could* a similar bylaw be enacted here in Thunder Bay???

This restriction brings to mind another ruling decades ago somewhere in the U.S.A. where a ham appealed such legislation to a higher court. His appeal was based on his constitutional right to fly the U.S. flag from a tower (or towers, there were two spaced just 66 feet apart....George **W8FWG** may recall this from an old issue of QST!)

And from the same issue.....The FCC is planning to monitor eBay auction sites for illegal items. EBay has agreed to remove ads for sale which are clearly “non-certified”, most of the equipment falling into the CB category, including illegal amplifiers. An FCC counsel credits the radio amateur community for urging this action. He receives an average of ten complaints a week about auction site radio gear.

Finally, from a more recent issue of the “Discharge” and of interest to **VE3SNW**.....the FCC has suspended its regulatory limit of \$6.65 for volunteer examiners. A fee of \$4 was originally established in 1984 to reimburse examiners for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. A new fee of \$10 goes into effect January 1. (Comments Ed???)

And while we are on the subject of restrictions, our Provincial Government is being urged to consider a ban on the use of cell phones while driving. Recently, in Toronto, there was a fatality in a horrific motor vehicle incident where one of the drivers charged right through a red light while chatting on a cell phone. Other governments have already banned the use of cell phones except where hands-free units are used.

Now where exactly does that leave amateur mobile operators? It is not the cell phone itself that is a concern, but driving with one hand on the wheel and the other clutching a cell phone. What effect would such legislation have on amateur radio mobile operations in Ontario? One can only assume essential services would be exempt. Will we have to use a headset/mike boom???

### What do these two “birds” have in common?



### Judy (VA3EAP) and Pat (VA3PP)

Well, both are sporting encased limbs. Both are active outdoor enthusiasts.....but **only one** got “done in” in the great outdoors! (see last page). “Hopalong” Judy and “Chicken-Wing” Pat were caught on-camera showing off their enhanced wardrobe at the GNW Coffee Company on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Those in attendance displayed much sympathy (with barely suppressed mirth). Pat was attempting to gather information from the Internet???(Tks **VE3ZG**)

One of the more useful publications that come across your editor's desk (by way of **VA3AML**) is the **Amateur Radio News Service (ARNS)**. The lead article in the December edition is titled "**The Future of Amateur Radio**", by John Rodgers, **N3MSE**.

John writes, "As I tune around the bands in the evenings, I invariably will find a conversation with people talking about the good old days of amateur radio.....I have also read remarks from officials of the FCC stating that we need to experiment and make greater use of the frequencies that we have allocated to us....we cannot go back and change the things that have happened in the hobby. The past is gone and is nothing more than memories and a foundation for amateur radio.

What we do have, however, is a golden opportunity to mold the future of the amateur radio service. The future is the youth of today. We must find ways to interest young people and make amateur radio enticing to young people.....one of the wonderful things is that today's youth are very deep into computers. As such we must show them ways that they can combine the two and have even more fun."

John goes on to describe how he and others have spent time with scouting through the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). Not only voice and cw can be demonstrated, but also slow scan TV, PSK31 and RTTY. Amateurs can also assist in earning merit badges.

Fred **VE3FAL** and others have been very active with JOTA, and this work needs to continue. He has had a few active amateurs help him out in the past. What can be done in the future? If you have any ideas, share them with Fred and perhaps we can have a large influx of youthful amateurs into our marvellous hobby. (Ed.)

#### **Truths..... (tks John VE3GTX)**

- it hurts to be on the cutting edge
- if it ain't broke, fix it till it is
- in just two days, tomorrow will be yesterday

#### **William Hewletter dead at 87.....**

William Hewletter, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard died at 87. He and friend David Packard put together a company ultimately worth \$49 billion manufacturing hi-quality computers and instruments. He was proudest of the HP management style which created a way to work with employees and let them share in the profits and still keep control of the company.

Prior to his death, he was ranked as one of the wealthiest Americans, yet he gave away tens of millions of dollars to environmental, educational and humanitarian causes. (Chronicle Journal January 13, 2001).

#### **A little humour.....**

When I went to get my driver's license renewed, our local motor-vehicle bureau was packed. The line inched along for almost an hour until the man ahead of me finally got his license.

He inspected his photograph for a moment and commented to the clerk, "I was standing in line so long, I ended up looking pretty grouchy in this picture."

The woman beside him peered over his shoulder, then reassured him. "It's okay. That's how you're going to look when the cops pull you over anyway!"  
(Tks ARNS)

See anything absurd about these consumer instructions seen on outside of product???

- on a bag of Fritos: "You could be a winner. No purchase required. Details inside".
- on a Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: "Product will be hot after heating"
- on Nytol Sleep Aid: "Warning - May cause drowsiness"

## Anatomy of a Short Circuit.....

Police were trying to identify a man who was electrocuted by 138,000 volts while apparently trying to steal copper wire from the power company's substation.

"He was burned pretty much beyond recognition," said Sgt. Terry Urbaniak of the So. Chicago District. A pair of pliers was found next to the man. Fire fighters found no fire when they responded to a call about 3:30 AM, but found the man's burned body. Power was not disrupted.

Circuit protection from devices similar to telemetry kept the system running. At the end of ten cycles of alternating current (which corresponds to 1110<sup>th</sup> of a second) [this seems incorrect... Ed.] 15,507 amperes were flowing through the remains. The circuit breaker then opened. The victim had shunted the current from C phase entrance to a phase shifting transformer to ground. The voltage dropped on C phase from 80,000 to 17,000. (I assume you "techies" understand all this!....Ed.)

A hole was blasted out of the bushing feeding the C phase transformer. The victim had disconnected the ground cable. When he touched the ungrounded cables, the current found its way to ground through control lines which terminated in the substation measuring devices. Panels were blown off the racks, meters blackened in their holders and wires disintegrated in their trough.

The victim and his partner got in by cutting a hole in the wire fence. Two sets of footprints were found entering, only one leaving. Judging from the prints leaving, the partner could have won an Olympic broad jump, high hurdles and maybe the 1000 yard dash.

(Tks QCWA Chicago Chapter via ARNS)

## Down Memory Lane.....

**February 1994**...among the graduating hams from the LARC course were Terry **VA3TFS**, Dave **VA3DVE**, Len **VA3LEB** and Sam **VA3SAM**. Steve **VE3KRH** reported **VE3YQT** was keyed up 366,888 times in the past year (1993), was in transmit mode for 1234.38 hours and enabled 1451 telephone calls. Jim **VE3UA** was editor of a fine 10-page HI-Q newsletter. There were 82 regular members in LARC

.Skip **VE3BBS**, Les **VE3JAJ** and Axel **VE3OPF** contributed many hours to the John Beargrease Dog Sled Race. Their station at Grand Marais was continually manned from 1600 Sunday through 0930 Wednesday. Two and six meter band plans were published in February. Mark **VE3VUK** was entered in this winter I-500 Snowmobile Race with bib #256. Finally, Bill **VE3EFC**, made a presentation at January's meeting on 2 meter amplifiers.

.....73 de ve3avs

### NOTICE OF LARC ANNUAL DINNER

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>**

**SLOVAK LEGION**

**SYMPOSIUM 1800      DINNER 1845**

**TICKETS @ \$22 FROM VE3RVA,**

**VA3EAP, VA3MVR OR VA3JRS**

**ONLY UNTIL FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>!!!**

We've all experienced flight delays....it's an accepted disadvantage of air travel. Here's a wee bit of humour from the ARNS.....

There is the story of a passenger on British Imperial Airways, a company which pioneered air travel between England and Australia in the mid-1930's. "If you have time to spare, go by air", was the popular expression of the day.

One of the very first flights took off from Croydon Airport near London and flew to northern France where it was delayed extensively due to bad weather. When it arrived in the south of France, one of the engines had failed and it was necessary to wait for another engine to be shipped by sea from England.

There were further delays along the route in Rome, Cairo, the Middle East, etc. until finally the flight progressed as far as Singapore. At this point a lady passenger asked the manager in Singapore if he thought the flight would arrive in Australia in the next few weeks because she was expecting a baby soon.

"My dear lady", he replied, "you should never have commenced your trip in that condition". She replied, "I didn't!!!"

**NOTICE OF LARC MEETING**

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**CONFEDERATION COLLEGE**

**ROOM 191 (NOTE NEW ROOM)**

**1930 HOURS**

**Web-sites.....**

[www.hamstudy.com](http://www.hamstudy.com) excellent site offering self-study guides for Canadian basic and advanced amateur radio examinations. You can download free sample lessons but a subscription is required for the full program. Looks very good

[www.ham.net/reviews/detail/1184](http://www.ham.net/reviews/detail/1184) click here for the very latest information on the new Yaesu FT817 transceiver.

[www.newusedare.com](http://www.newusedare.com) click here for new and used amateur radio equipment . Excellent details on items for sale, and currency (U.S. or Can) indicated

[www.hamradio-online.com](http://www.hamradio-online.com) lots of news and tech stuff, histories, etc.

<http://incolor.inetnebr.com/n0ujr/> ham cartoon???

**RAC Bulletins.....**

Industry Canada has issued a Gazette Notice to give full operating privileges below 30 MHz to amateurs having a 5 word per minute qualification. Comments should be sent IC within 60 days of January 5<sup>th</sup>.

RAC is encouraging Canadian amateurs to set up radio contacts between school children and astronauts on the International Space Station. For the time being 2 M FM transceivers will be used on board the ISS. Amateurs and teachers must fill out an application form and forward to Daniel Lamoureux, **VE2KA**. Click on the web site for more details:

[www.rac.ca/ariss.htm](http://www.rac.ca/ariss.htm)

**RAC Upcoming events.....**

January 26-28 CQ 160-M CW Contest

“ 27-28 YL-ISSB QSO Party CW

“ 27-28 SLP Competition (SWL)

“ 27-28 REF Contest CW

“ 27-28 BARTG RTTY Sprint

“ 27-28 UBA Contest Phone

“ 27-28 Kansas QSO Party

February 3-4 Vermont QSO Party

“ 3-4 New Hampshire QSO Party

“ 3-4 10-10 Inter. SSB Winter Contest

“ 3 Minnesota QSO Party

“ 3-5 YL-OM Contest CW

“ 3-5 Delaware QSO Party

“ 3-5 Mexico RTTY International Contest

“ 4 North American Sprint Phone

February 1 – 28 Special Event call sign VA7A to be used by Beaver Valley RAC to commemorate the Radio Wave Reception Testings by Marconi's Engineers in the Trail, B.C. area in July 1929.

**LARC ANNUAL FAMILY SKI NIGHT**

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**KAMVIEW NORDIC SKI CENTER**

**GATHER IN THE CHALET AT 1900 HOURS**

And if you don't care to ski, stay in your shack and.....



## The Tapper

(Tks Bill VE3AJ)

**Late breaking news.....**

From Bob Chandler, **VE3SRE**, comes news that the **Ontario QSO Party** will be shifted from the last weekend of April to the third full weekend of April. This means the 5<sup>th</sup> annual begins 1800 UTC April 21<sup>st</sup> and runs to 1800 UTC Sunday, April 22.

**Thisn' that.....**

**Steve Thoburn** is not a household name here but could become one in the U.K. thanks to the European Union metric laws. According to a recent Chronicle Journal news item, he may become a martyr simply because he continues to sell fruit and vegetables by imperial measures. If he loses his upcoming battle in the courts, will it be just a matter of time until the average working man's "pint of beer" is made extinct? What will be next? Will the McDonald quarter pounder become a hundred and thirteen point five grams???

**Oil shortage in Canada explained.....**

There are a lot of folks who can't understand how we came to have an oil shortage here in Canada. Well, there's a very simple answer....nobody bothered to check the oil.

The reason for that is purely geographical. All the oil is in Alberta. All the dipsticks are in Ottawa!! (Tks Bill VA3AY)

And that's a wrap for this issue. My thanks to all who sent in material....some is being saved for the next HI-Q.....keep up the good work....73 de dave ve3avs

**FOR SALE**

**ICOM IC2-AT 2 METER FM H/T C/W  
RECHARGEABLE BATTERY PACK,  
WALL CHARGER, EXTRA BATTERY  
PACK AND MANUAL**

**QSO MIKE VE3ZG @767-1714**



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club  
Held in Room 191, Confederation College, Thunder Bay,  
Ontario on January 11, 2001**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President VE3RVA, Bob Hansen with 26 members and guests in attendance. The meeting started with a roundtable of those in attendance introducing themselves.

**Minutes of the Meeting held on December 14, 2000:**

The minutes of the meeting held on December 14, 2000 were published in detail in the January issue of "HI-Q" and distributed to all members.

**Motion:** moved by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki and seconded by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

**Correspondence:** none

**Treasurer's Report:** VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski

Balance as of November 30, 2000		\$ 3,266.02	
Income:	Bank Interest	0.80	
	50/50 Draw	11.00	
	Membership dues	70.00	
	Donation	<u>5.00</u>	86.80
Expenses:	Bank Service Charge	5.00	
	HI-Q	47.87	
	Telephone	40.37	
	Annual Dinner	50.00	
	Flowers (VE3BBS)	57.50	
	RAC Membership	<u>39.95</u>	240.69
Balance as of December 31, 2000		\$ 3,112.13	

**Motion:** moved by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski and seconded by VE3GTX, John Watson that the Treasurer's report be accepted. **Carried.**

**Committee Reports:**

**-Public Service:** the Sibley Ski Tour is coming up on Saturday, March 3, 2001. VE3XRC, Norm Bell is looking for volunteers.

**Old Business:**

**-Annual Dinner:** to be held on Saturday, February 10, 2001 at the Slovak Legion. Symposium is at 1800 hours with dinner at 1845 hours. Tickets are available from VE3RVA, Bob Hansen or VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski at \$22.00 per ticket.

**New Business:**

**-Auditors:** as required by our By-Laws, two individuals are required to conduct a financial audit of the Club's books and present their report at the annual meeting. VE3SNW, Ed Baumann and VE3GTX, John Watson volunteered for the job.

**-Club Inventory:** VE3RVA, Bob Hansen wants to update the inventory of the Club assets. It has been several years since the list was updated.

**-Fund Raising:** the Executive has discussed the possibilities of conducting a fund raising campaign. It was pointed out from the floor that it would be very unlikely that we could get a lottery license to conduct a raffle. The question was asked what the money was required for, does the executive have a plan for the future and a shopping list with a value attached to it. It was suggested that we take a step back and come up with a list of priorities.

**-2001 Field Day:** VA3MVR, Mark Vaillant has agreed to coordinate this years field day.

**-Meeting Ideas:** April - show and tell

May - VE3INI, Andy Malcolm will do something

June - VE3FAL, Fred Lesnick re satellite communications

**-Family Get Together:** is planned for the end of February or early March at VE3RVA, Bob Hansen's camp at Cummings Lake.

**-Old Receipts:** VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski requested permission to destroy the original copies of old receipts that people have not picked up.

**Motion:** moved by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski and seconded by VE3GTX, John Watson that permission be granted to the Treasurer to destroy the original copies of the old receipts. **Carried.**

**50/50 Draw:** winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3RVA, Bob Hansen.

**Adjournment:** moved by VA3MOB, Maureen Meredith that the meeting be adjourned.

### THE BALLAD OF JUDE

FAL and WRL set out one fateful night  
To ski the trail at Kamview 'neath its artificial lights.  
Feet firmly in the bindings they headed for the woods  
Following just a bit behind the skier known as "Jude".

She beamed both joy and exuberance though she had just begun  
To learn from WRL the techniques that made it fun.  
Carefree, without a worry, a happy ski-trail dude  
Not knowing that disaster lurked just down the trail for Jude.

Shifting weight from ski to ski she began to pick up speed,  
While from behind, Wayne shouted out, "C'mon Jude..... Ski Ski!".  
She found his words encouraging and was getting in the mood  
Until something happened to one ski supporting sporty Jude.

The right ski became tangled in an off-trail clump of snow;  
Suddenly she lost her balance ..... and over she did go!  
Yet after just a few minutes our skier bravely stood  
And hobbled to the chalet, our gutsy skier Jude.

Suffering pain she did drive home but bravado couldn't last;  
In the ER of the hospital the doc applied a cast.  
And if you'd like to sign her cast you'd better sign it soon  
'Cuz in two weeks she'll be back on skis, that super skier Jude.

Now there's a moral to this story, all you wannabe's should heed;  
While it's OK to talk of skiing don't go out and do the deed.  
If you should ever long to ski and feel you're in the mood,  
Just stack those skis back in the rack, or you may wind up like Jude!!!

M. Bonski  
January 12/2001